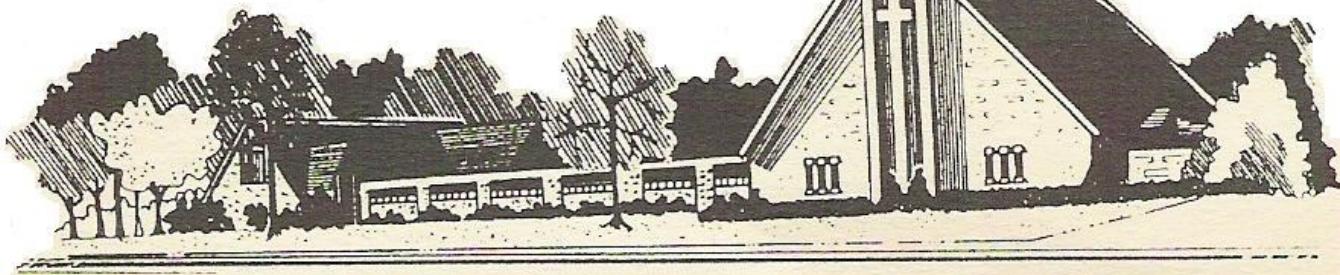
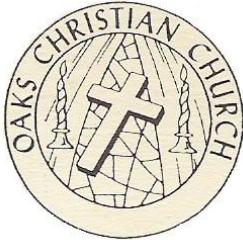


OAKS NOTES



Oaks Christian Church is a family church that loves to share God's word, God's Love, and God's fellowship with the world. We are a church in the near inner loop that strives to be a helpful part of the community. We are about Deep Christian spirituality, a true community and a passion for Justice. We celebrate communion every Sunday service and all who believe are welcome to receive.



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A Note from Pastor Don



Several weeks ago when Linda's dad died, we all headed to Abilene to go to the funeral to spend some time with family and try to tie up a few loose ends. After 3-4 days, we were physically exhausted and emotionally spent and ready to head back to Houston. It's a little over a six hour drive, and to be honest with you, not a one of us was looking forward to starting that trip. But since there were three of us (Linda, my daughter Kelsey, and myself), we divided the drive up.

Kelsey said she would start us off. Even though we were all tired, it was still fun! Kelsey was behind the wheel, I was in the passenger seat, and the two of us were having an avid conversation about college football. Linda was in back, working on some other stuff, but adding to our conversation when we'd let her.

As we went through one of those small west Texas towns, I casually said, "Kelsey, look out. There's a cop up ahead." To which she said, "Ohhhh noooo! I hope he doesn't come get us." But of course, he did, and he pulled us over.

He seemed nice enough, but he got all Kelsey's info. (I was just glad I wasn't driving.) She told him we were coming

from Abilene and heading to Houston. I was hoping he would just give us a warning, but then he pulled out his pen and started filling out paper work.

I just knew the ticket was coming. But what Kelsey got was an "official warning," as well as a kind word from the officer who said speed limits change rather abruptly in a lot of these small towns, and we need to be careful!

My daughter was guilty of speeding. There's no getting around it. But she was let go and given a warning – "another chance," so to speak. And this is a great example of grace! We are sinners... and we should be sentenced to death! But we have been given another chance!

God gives us plenty of signs, signs that are much larger and easier to see than those crazy west Texas speed signs. And God's message stays the same! It doesn't change as we go from town to town. And that mes-



THOUGHTS FROM SEPT.

Some of you may have noticed there was no newsletter last month. We apologize for not sending one. Things got busy in our office, and before we knew it, September was already finished! However, there are updates from last month that still deserve some recognition. We have condensed those stories down to a single article. Enjoy!

On behalf of Stevens Elementary and the church, we would like to thank everyone who donated school supplies during August's Back to School Drive. Your care and compassion for the students are appreciated. Board Chair Jimmy Saldívar said it was a huge success. The donations were taken to Stevens in early September, and the elementary was incredibly thankful.

Also, thanks to any of you who donated gently used items for the rummage sale. It went very well, raising \$1,175 in donations for the church's mission giving fund. Church Treasurer Dorene

Drake said that is the most money raised in the last five years. If you came to shop or volunteer at the sale, we thank you!

Lastly, Dorene Drake wanted to extend a thank you to the congregation for their kindness during her husband's passing in July:

"Dear friends,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and support. I appreciated them very much. It means a lot to have the support of a church family.

Love, Dorene"



Oaks Christian Church invites you to:
TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 26
from 5-7 pm

Enjoy FREE:
Food, Candy, Face Painting,
and a showing of
Charlie Brown
and the Great Pumpkin

A large orange jack-o'-lantern with a carved face and a black belt with a gold buckle is shown in the center of the poster.

TEAMING UP FOR HUNGER

Be sure to stretch before church on Sunday, Nov. 2. Shortly after the worship service ends that day, members will head to the Art Park near downtown to walk 1-3 miles for the 2014 Houston CROP Hunger Walk.

CROP Hunger Walk, a national event led by Church World Service (CWS), takes place annually in over 2,000 communities to raise money and awareness for world hunger.

Each participating city is given 25 percent of the money raised to support local hunger-alleviating efforts in their own area.

Outreach Services Chair Pat Whitley said there were about ten people on the Oaks team last year, and she is hoping for another great turnout next month.

"I think hunger is one of the great missions our church has," Whitley said. "It all goes back to feed my sheep."

The walk is for a good cause, but Whitley said it's also a fun experience.

"My favorite part is being with people," she said. "It's always a beautiful day. I like walking with friends and enjoying nature."

Whitley will hand out information and donation envelopes this month to those who are interested in participating.



The Oaks team taking a quick break at

October 2014

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|--|---|-----|--|--|
| | | | 1 Handbell Choir @ 6 pm; Chancel Choir @ 7 pm | 2 | 3 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm | 4 Renovada Event in Sanctuary @ 6-11 pm |
| 5 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am | 6 | 7 CWF @ 10 am; Girl Scout Mtgs. @ 6 pm; Bible Study | 8 Handbell Choir @ 6 pm; Chancel Choir @ 7 pm | 9 | 10 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm | 11 Bible Olympics @ 10 am - 2 pm |
| 12 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Board Meeting | 13 | 14 Prayer Circle @ 9:30 am; CWF @ 10 am; Girl Sets @ 6 pm; Bible Study | 15 Handbell Choir @ 6 pm; Chancel Choir @ 7 pm | 16 | 17 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30 pm | 18 |
| 19 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Dialysis Support | 20 | 21 CWF @ 10 am; Girl Scout Mtgs. @ 6 pm; Bible Study | 22 Handbell Choir @ 6 pm; Chancel Choir @ 7 pm | 23 | 24 ACE Spaghetti Dinner @ 6:30pm; Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible | 25 CMF Breakfast @ 9 am; Free Community Lunch @ 12-2 pm |
| 26 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45 am; Trunk or Treat | 27 | 28 WF @ 9:30am; Girl Scout Mtgs. @ 6 pm; Bible Study | 29 Handbell Choir @ 6 pm; Chancel Choir @ 7 pm | 30 | 31 Renovada Youth Mtg. @ 7-9 pm; Boy Scouts @ 7:30 pm; Renovada Bible | |

Happy October Birthdays:

10.1 Elizabeth Wharton
 10.5 Sammy Sarabia
 10.6 Larry Scruggs
 10.12 Michael Spencer
 10.14 Charlie Dean
 10.15 Crissa Clawson
 10.19 Mark Conover, Roy Horn, & Jimmye Saldivar
 10.21 Richard Castillo
 10.22 Kathryn Whitley
 10.23 Janet Duplechain

Happy October Anniversaries:

10.21 Roy and Marceil Horn


From the Treasurer - Dorene Drake

| Operating Account '14 | 2014 JUNE | 2014 JULY | 2014 AUGUST |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Deposits | \$10,330.00 | \$11,166.00 | \$8,996.16 |
| Disbursements | \$10,556.06 | \$(11,909.71) | \$7,814.99 |
| Difference | \$(226.06) | \$(743.71) | \$1,181.17 |

BIBLE STUDY TUESDAYS

Bible Study officially started again on September 30, but that doesn't mean it's too late to start attending.

Pastor Don Joseph said there is still room for new arrivals.

"I just want to let everybody know that the door is open," he said, "and everyone is invited to join us for Tuesday nights."

This year, the group is studying the Book of Colossians.

"Colossians is just full of life lessons relevant for us today," Joseph said.

NEW FLOWER PLANTED

You may notice a new plant just south of the sanctuary. It is a vitex, which was donated by the Piney Woods Garden Club to one of its members, Dorene Drake, in memory of her husband, Ernest Knipp. Jimmye Saldivar and Dorene planted the vitex last week. Once grown, the shrub will produce beautiful cone shaped blossoms.

Oaks Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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Thanks for all your help, Oaks!



2014 Supplies Drive Delivery



2014 Rummage Sale